

Department of Public Health
and Human Services

Section:
ELIGIBILITY AND BENEFITS

TANF CASH ASSISTANCE

Subject:
Childcare Assistance

Supersedes: TANF 901-1 (07/01/01)

References: 45 CFR Part 98; P. L. 104-193; ARM 37.78.102; ARM 37.80.201, .202

≥ **GENERAL RULE** -TANF Block Grant Child Care (BGCC) is available to eligible TANF cash assistance participants engaged in approved Family Investment Agreement/WoRC Employability Plan (FIA/EP) activities with a demonstrated need for childcare. The childcare disregard is applied for incurred childcare expenses when determining eligibility for TANF cash assistance applicants and participants.

When determining eligibility for TANF cash assistance, the amount of anticipated childcare expenses, which will be paid by the household, is considered an earned income disregard (Section 602-1). Each family receiving TANF Block Grant childcare assistance is required to pay a \$10 per month co-payment.

≥ If the participant needs childcare assistance in order to comply with FIA/EP activities, the cost is paid by the State, with the exception of the co-payment. The children must be in the assistance unit (Code in on SEPA) **The WoRC Case Manager** will make a referral to the local Resource and Referral Agency using the HCS-051

Childcare assistance will also be provided for minor children not included in the assistance unit if the caretaker relative needs childcare in order to comply with FIA/EP activities. This would include those children receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Title IV-E Foster Care, or not included in the assistance unit for failing an eligibility requirement (TEAMS Participation Codes: 'SC', 'DQ', or 'OU').

EXAMPLE #1: A family consists of a mother, father, their two minor children and a blood-related minor who is not within the fifth degree of kinship (Section 305-1) and thus fails eligibility (Part Code: 'DQ'). Childcare is needed for the minor child not included in the assistance unit in order for the mother and father to comply with their FIA/EP activities; their eligible children do not need childcare. A referral will be made to the local Resource & Referral agency for childcare assistance.

EXAMPLE #2: A family consists of father, his oldest child and his youngest child who is staying with him for a month in the summer. The youngest child cannot be added to the assistance unit. Childcare is

needed for this child in order for father to comply with his FIA/EP activities. A referral will be made to the local R & R for childcare assistance.

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Childcare assistance for attendance hours at a secondary school will also be provided, if needed, for teen parents living with a specified caretaker relative. For example, a teen parent lives with her father and attends secondary school. Because she is attending **full-time** high school or **full-time** Graduate Equivalency Diploma (GED) classes, she is not required to have a FIA/EP. However, she needs childcare to continue attending school, therefore childcare assistance will be provided.

For complete childcare assistance policy and procedure, refer to the Child Care Policy Manual, Section 3.1 (TANF) and Section 3.2 (Tribal TANF).

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